

Harrow Agenda 21
Minutes of the Waste & Recycling Group Meeting
Committee Room 6, Harrow Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2UZ
Wednesday 26th January 2011, 7.00 PM

Present:

Mick Oliver	MO	Chair and minutes
Shahrzad Amoli	SA	
Mick Campbell	MC	South Harrow & Roxeth Residents' Association
Evelyn Donald	ED	
Eileen Kinnear	EK	Greener Harrow
Daniel McKeon	DM	

1. Welcome and Apologies

MO welcomed SA to her first meeting and all members introduced themselves. Apologies for absence had been received from Beverley McKeon.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting on 24th November 2010 were considered and approved.

3. Harrow Waste Management Report

3.1 No report was received but MO reported statements made by Phil O'Dell on Harrow's performance during the Christmas period – the meeting agreed that this had been good and that adverse press comment was ill-informed and unjustified.

3.2 MO reported submitting a response to the Mayor of London's Waste Strategy and regretted he did not retain a copy. ED stated the U3A Sustainability Group had done the same, efficiently.

3.3 MO reported that West Waste's consultation on "Proposed sites and Policies" was not yet available. **MO to draft comments when available.**

3.4 MO reported that Sarah Dickinson had manned a Waste Prevention stall at the Civic Centre on November 25th, and ran a Food Waste competition across the 6 West Waste boroughs which he had made known to Ian Proctor of the Harrow Observer, which received his interest but no publicity. He praised the website she ran and recommended members to consult it www.westlondonwaste.gov.uk, and pointed out that the group's meetings were listed on its calendar. MC stated that Sarah was interested in the dvd the group was preparing, and EK stated that Sarah was due to speak at Greener Harrow's meeting on February 16th.

4. Projects and Campaigns

4.1 "What happens to waste?" MC explained he had completed filming but that the soundtrack was incomplete and needed further work. It had been shown to members at the HA21 social on January 15th, was shown to the meeting and received an enthusiastic response from both audiences. MC confirmed to ED that it would be available for U3A to show when the outstanding work on the soundtrack was complete. **MC and MO agreed to seek consent from Viridor and Bywaters to include material from their dvds in our production.**

4.2 MO reported that his article on hard water's implications on biodiversity was on the HA21 website, and showed the meeting Eco-Congregation's November issue which also included it. He was seeking other members with relevant background knowledge to assist, so far without response.

4.3 MO repeated the display he had carried out at the November meeting, but using a polypropylene yoghurt pot which weighed half the weight of the soup container used previously – a more powerful demonstration of the mechanical properties of the product. He proposed using the display as a feature in *In Contact*. Possible angles for project – too useful a material to be incinerated? – why so much diversity in the plastics used in packaging – do they have properties which are necessary? – or do they just complicate recycling to no purpose? **Group to consider.**

Recycling from flats was identified as a potential project – **SA** identified Sutton as an example of good practice, using Bioregional at Bedzed, introduced the concept of Zero Waste, and **agreed to investigate Sutton's procedures and report back**. Similarly, **ED** identified good practice reported in *the Mayor of London's Strategy*, and **agreed to investigate**. **MC agreed to investigate procedures in Barnet, Camden and Brent.**

MC also agreed to consult Veolia to establish the energy required to process and distribute water, and to remove waste water in sewage, to enable the group to produce a dvd on water use, embracing metering, leakage, water-saving technology, Australian block tariff.

5. Campaign for Real Recycling

MO circulated papers on the Campaign, which he saw as a source of advice that was independent of the Borough and West Waste. The meeting agreed that **MO should investigate details on the subscription and benefits**. The meeting also agreed that **HA21 should subscribe to the Chartered Institute of Waste Management's Journal** and circulate it within the group. (Annual subscription £106.80)

6. Scrapbook

MO brought in a file of cuttings relating to waste and recycling, and drew attention to waste in south Sudan, and hostile press comment on councils' waste and recycling practices. He asked **all members to save and share cuttings on waste-related topics**.

7. Matters arising

DM explained Nower Hill's waste time capsule trial, and that he had reported it in *In Contact*. There were no other matters arising from November's minutes.

8. Any other business

The group listened to "Let's Recycle", a song by the McCalmans which was based on a recycling leaflet issued by the Mid Lothian District Council.

See <http://www.the-mccalmans.com/lyrics/lyrics-Lets-Recycle.htm>

MC pointed out that a MRF in Wandsworth which is due to come into operation in the spring should be capable of separating mixed plastics.

HA 21 have copies of "The Secret Life of Stuff" by Julie Hill, and "Longer Lasting Products – alternatives to the throw-away society" ed by Tim Cooper – ***both available for members to borrow.***

9. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next meeting confirmed for Wednesday March 30th, Civic Centre Committee room 3 at 7 p.m.

Confirmed dates for later meetings:

30 March Room 3

25 May tba

27 July Room 3

28 Sept Room 6

30 Nov Room 3